## EXHIBIT A

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

CENTRAL DIVISION

## BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE S. JENKINS

September 8, 2023

Motion to Dismiss for Failure to State a Claim

## Appearances of Counsel:

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1 THE COURT: Anybody else? 2 MR. WELSH: Your Honor, very, very briefly. And 3 I appreciate it. Just to respond quickly to those comments. 4 First, for McGill, and that statement within it, 11:57:44 5 I encourage the court to read the aspect of the portion of 6 the patents where that comes from and which is explaining in 7 dicta what the standard is in rejecting those and looking at 8 economic reality of the transaction. 9 Every -- the only cases that they -- that 11:58:02 10 opposing counsel can point to in which an investment 11 contract was dismissed at a pleading stage is for commercial 12 loans. Across the board in all other cases and all types of 13 other schemes from the District of Utah, District of 14 Colorado throughout the Tenth Circuit have read that to mean 11:58:20 15 that economic reality of the transaction. That is what matters here. With that, I will rest, Your Honor. 16 17 THE COURT: In reference to Mr. Thurston, counsel has somewhat clarified the nature of the fraud action 18 19 against Mr. Thurston. I think the rule requires to be, in 11:59:00 20 reference to Mr. Thurston, to be explicit. If you're relying upon some other form of fraud, you in turn need to 21 22 be explicit. 23 I'll grant the motion to dismiss, with leave to 24 amend, Mr. Thurston's, that is, the SEC's claim against 11:59:31 25 Mr. Thurston in reference to fraud, but just in reference to

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fraud. Whether it's stated expressly or indirectly, that needs to be clarified with some degree of care.

As to the remaining motions, I'm going to reserve on those. It's an interesting case, but I'm going to place a burden on counsel. I want both the moving parties, in a couple of weeks, to file with the court their explanation of what a Green Box is, and their explanation of what's being sold including not just the machinery, but if something else is being sold, I want you to tell me what it is. And if there are separate -- is there are separate software, explain to me what software that you're talking about and give me an example.

And I'll place that burden initially on the defendants. If you can get that done in a couple of weeks and then I'm interested in the United States telling me what was sold. Describe for me what the Green Box sale embraced and whether it did anything other than the machine. And if so, tell me explicitly what it is and tell me their version of what their software is and what I get, if I'm a purchaser, when I buy from the defendant what it is that I get.

And if defendants will respond -- if the defendants would get to me -- get the material to me by not later than the 25th of September, and let's have the United States respond by Friday the 13th of October I would

1 appreciate that. And if it is the kind of thing where we 2 need to set it down, we will in the regular course. But I'm 3 eager to be educated in the -- in the esoteric area that 4 people are talking about. I'm going to try to make it as simple and as direct and as understandable as possible. 12:03:32 5 6 So good luck. I'll reserve on the matter until I 7 get those and we'll take a look. 8 MR. GANNON: Your Honor --9 THE COURT: Appreciate your help. Thank you very 12:03:50 10 much. 11 MR. GANNON: Thank you, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: You may be excused unless there is 13 anything else to worry about. 14 MR. GANNON: No, sir. 12:03:57 15 THE COURT: You may be excused. I was going to 16 ask counsel for the moving party, where I have granted the 17 fraud motion, if you will prepare and submit a suggested form of order within 10 days. 18 19 MR. GANNON: Yes, Your Honor, we will. 12:04:17 20 THE COURT: I would appreciate that. Run it by 2.1 counsel. 22 (Court adjourned at 12:04 p.m.) 23 24 25

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 2 3 I, Laura W. Robinson, Certified Shorthand 4 Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public 5 within and for the County of Salt Lake, State of Utah, do 6 hereby certify: 7 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before 8 me at the time and place set forth herein and were taken 9 down by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed into 10 typewriting under my direction and supervision; 11 That the foregoing pages contain a true and 12 correct transcription of my said shorthand notes so taken. 13 In witness whereof I have subscribed my name 14 this 12th day of September, 2023. 15 16 Laura W. Robinson 17 Laura W. Robinson 18 RPR, FCRR, CSR, CP 19 20 21 22 23 24 25